



Office of Transitional Services

Vision Statement:

Our vision is that every offender released from prison will be prepared to reenter society as a productive law abiding citizen of New Jersey.

Mission Statement:

We will enhance public safety by reducing the risk that offenders will re-offend and return to prison by providing comprehensive services from the time they enter prison through their reintegration back into society.

New Jersey Department of Corrections
Leah Kaiser, Director
Office of Transitional Services
Post Office Box 863
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NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

Office of Transitional Services



*Once out...
...Stay out*

**Devon Brown, Commissioner
New Jersey Department of Corrections**

NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

Office of Transitional Services

More than 14,000 offenders are released from State Prison in New Jersey each year. U.S. Department of Justice statistics indicate that two out of three inmates will be rearrested for new offenses within three years. In an effort to combat this serious problem, the New Jersey Department of Corrections created the Office of Transitional Services.

The goal of the Office of Transitional Services is to implement a seamless continuum of care for offenders utilizing cost efficient, well-proven behavior science practices system wide that increase offenders abilities and motivation to demonstrate responsible crime free behavior. The Office of Transitional Services provides oversight to the institutional Social Services Departments. We have developed partnerships with federal, state and local agencies for creating linkages to resources that provide support to offenders. We ensure that services are coordinated in four key interrelated areas: employment and economic stability, mental, physical and spiritual health, housing and family stability. Offenders are provided with the tools necessary to become productive members of the community.

Transitional Model

Our transitional model is a phased process that begins at intake. During the **Assessment and Classification Phase**, a comprehensive assessment is completed on every offender that includes an assessment of risk and needs, education and vocational skill, family and financial stability, behavioral, mental, and spiritual health, and addiction. It is this information by which decisions about their placement conditions and institutional programming are made. During the **Institutional Phase** a multidisciplinary team collectively prepare a comprehensive service plan. At approximately twelve months prior to an offender's release, the **Pre-Release Phase** begins. During this phase the offender completes a series of discharge workshops. At three months prior to release the **Transition Phase** begins. During this phase offenders are linked to community-based services through the coordinated efforts of discharge planning social workers, parole and the community. The discharge plan continues throughout the period of release. Intense support and supervision during the early days of the offender's release is critical to ensure the offenders success.

SOCIAL SERVICES AND TRANSITIONAL PROGRAMS

The Department of Corrections offers a variety of social service programs designed to meet the range of needs of the offender population and increase the offender's ability to leave prison prepared to successfully return to society. These services include:

Behavioral Modification
Community Referrals
Focus on the Victim
Anger Management
Responsible Parenting
Moral Reconciliation Therapy
HIV Education and Support
Girl Scouts Behind Bars
Alcoholics Anonymous
Narcotics Anonymous
Gambling Anonymous
Alanon
One-to-One Counseling Sessions
Group Counseling
Domestic Violence
Parenting
Prerelease Services
House of Healing
Drug Education and Awareness
Poetry and Music Therapy

For more information

Send correspondence:

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